Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Thursday 12 Jan 2023 until 23:59 on Friday 13 Jan 2023

Forecast Issued on Thursday 12 Jan 2023 at 02:47 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for unsettled conditions and for turning colder over the weekend, lower for detail especially later Friday and Saturday.

Headline for Thursday 12 Jan 2023: After dry start for some, soon becoming unsettled with showers or longer spells of snow and strengthening winds bringing blizzards, though rain at low levels.

Mountain weather hazards on Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Blizzards
High Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
High Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Light snow	Sleet	Sleet showers	Sleet showers (night)	Sleet showers (night)
Precipitation probability					
20%	50%	60%	70%	60%	60%

Forecast for Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Weather: A deceptively dry start but cloud soon thickening to bring a band of rain to Arran, with snow above 700-800m as it quickly pushes northeast into the Southwest Highlands soon after dawn, snow level briefly rising to 900m. A short brighter interlude will follow towards midday but showers will quickly return in the afternoon merging into some more prolonged rain and snow, the snow level falling back down to 500-600m inland and a bit higher towards the west coast. With strengthening winds and plenty snow cover at height then blizzard conditions will develop across the upper slopes. Later in the evening the rain and snow easing and snow levels edging up.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% at first then mostly 10% or less during the day except for a short period around midday.

Low Cloud and visibility: Cloud becoming extensive by daybreak and often falling 450-600m with very poor visibility in cloud, and where blizzard or whiteout conditions develop. Poor in snow showers too, with moderate visbility in rain at lower levels. Any temporary improvements around the middle of the day brief.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Thursday 12 Jan 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	24/28 S	31/37 SE	37/46 SW	48/61 S	34/44 S	14/18 S	18/23 NW
900	14/17 SW	20/26 SE	24/32 SW	31/42 S	23/34 S	9/13 S	12/17 NW
600	15/18 S	23/28 SE	30/38 SW	41/52 S	33/42 S	11/15 S	13/17 NW
300	10/12 S	12/19 SE	15/23 S	24/36 S	17/27 S	7/11 S	9/14 NW
Glen	3/6 S	5/14 SE	9/21 S	17/37 S	13/29 S	5/11 SW	7/17 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
1300	-2/-10	-2/-11	-3/-12	-3/-13	-3/-12	-3/-9	-3/-10
900	-1/-7	-0/-7	-0/-7	-1/-9	-1/-8	-1/-5	-1/-6
600	2/-3	3/-3	2/-5	2/-6	2/-6	2/-2	1/-3
300	5/1	4/0	4/-0	4/-1	4/-2	4/1	3/0
Glen	4/3	5/4	6/3	6/2	6/2	5/4	5/3
Freezing Level*	800m	900m	900m	900m	800m	900m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View
Note the very low feels like temperature.

Forecast for Friday 13 Jan 2023
Weather: Bright or sunny intervals and occasional showers which will be of snow above 500-600m. The showers will be lighter than on previous days with a better chance of sunny interludes.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly 20 gusts 30mph becoming southwesterly in the afternoon.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40% - some clearances

Low Cloud and visibility: Occasional cloud at 600-900m in showers, perhaps a bit lower towards the west coast in the afternoon. Visibility also reduced to moderate, perhaps poor in the showers below the cloud.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 rising to Plus 5 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius
Freezing level: 700m

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